

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

DESHAWN CURLEY,

Plaintiff,

v.

CREDIT ONE BANK, N.A.; and
EQUIFAX INFORMATION SERVICES
LLC,

Defendants.

Case No.: 1:25-cv-2110

**Complaint for Damages:
Violation of Fair Credit
Reporting Act**

Plaintiff, Deshawn Curley, by and through undersigned counsel, upon information and belief, hereby complains as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This action arises out of Defendants' violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act ("FCRA") whereby Plaintiff discovered inaccurate information reporting on their consumer credit report, disputed that inaccurate information, and Defendants willfully or negligently refused to correct the inaccurate information on Plaintiff's consumer credit report, damaging Plaintiff.

II. PARTIES

2. At all times pertinent hereto, Plaintiff was a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1681a(3).

3. Defendant, Credit One Bank, N.A. ("Credit One") is and at all times relevant hereto was, a lending institution regularly doing business in the State of New York.

4. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant Credit One is a "person" as that term is defined in 15 U.S.C. §1681a(b), and also a "furnisher" of credit information as that term is described in 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2 *et seq.*

5. Defendant Equifax Information Services LLC (“Equifax”) is a corporation existing under the laws of New York and at all times relevant hereto was regularly doing business in the State of New York.

6. Equifax regularly engages in the business of assembling, evaluating, and disbursing information concerning consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports, as defined in 15 U.S.C. §1681a(d), to third parties.

7. Equifax furnishes such consumer reports to third parties under contract for monetary compensation.

8. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant Equifax was a “person” and “consumer reporting agency” as those terms are defined by 15 U.S.C. §1681a(b) and (f).

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681p and 28 U.S.C. §1331.

10. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b).

11. Personal jurisdiction exists over Defendants as Plaintiff resides in New York, Defendants have the necessary minimum contacts with the state of New York, and this suit arises out of specific conduct with Plaintiff in New York.

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

12. Plaintiff is a consumer who is the victim of inaccurate reporting by Defendants Credit One and Equifax (collectively, “Defendants”), and has suffered particularized and concrete harm.

13. Equifax is one of the largest consumer reporting agencies (“CRAs”) as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1681a(f).

14. The CRAs’ primary business is the sale of consumer reports (commonly

referred to as “credit reports”) to third parties and consumers.

15. Equifax has a duty, under the FCRA, to follow reasonable procedures to ensure that the consumer reports they sell meet the standard of “maximum possible accuracy.” 15 U.S.C. §1681e(b).

16. After reviewing Plaintiff’s consumer credit reports Plaintiff discovered their Credit One account balance \$1,012 (the “Account”) being reported in error.

17. Credit One assigned the Account to LVNV Funding.

18. Once assigned the Account, LVNV Funding began reporting the Account on Plaintiff’s consumer reports.

19. LVNV Funding reports the Account with a balance past due on Plaintiff’s Equifax report.

20. Because Credit One and LVNV Funding both report the Account with a balance past due on Plaintiff’s consumer report, Plaintiff’s outstanding debt and number of adverse and delinquent accounts is overstated.

21. The Account is reported with a different account number, different open dates, and different payment histories by Credit One and LVNV Funding.

22. The inaccurate Account has become a permanent component of the Plaintiff’s credit profile and is reported to those who ask to review the credit history of Plaintiff.

23. The false information regarding the Account appearing on Plaintiff’s consumer reports harms the Plaintiff because it does not accurately depict Plaintiff’s credit history and creditworthiness.

PLAINTIFF’S WRITTEN DISPUTE

24. Plaintiff sent a written dispute to Equifax (“Equifax Dispute”), disputing the inaccurate information regarding the Account reporting on Plaintiff’s Equifax consumer report.

25. Despite the clarity and detail provided in the Equifax Dispute the Account

continues to appear on Plaintiff's Equifax consumer report with a balance past due and derogatory status.

26. Upon information and belief, Equifax forwarded Plaintiff's Equifax Dispute to Defendant Credit One.

27. Upon information and belief, Credit One received notification of Plaintiff's Equifax Dispute from Equifax.

28. Credit One did not conduct an investigation, contact Plaintiff, contact third-parties, or review underlying Account information with respect to the disputed information and the accuracy of the Credit One Account.

29. Equifax did not conduct an investigation, contact Plaintiff, contact third-parties, or review underlying account information with respect to the disputed information and the accuracy of the Account.

30. Upon information and belief, Credit One failed to instruct Equifax to remove the false information regarding the Account reporting on Plaintiff's consumer report.

31. Equifax employed an investigation process that was not reasonable and did not remove the false information regarding the Accounts identified in Plaintiff's Equifax Dispute.

32. At no point after receiving the Equifax Dispute did Credit One or Equifax communicate with Plaintiff to determine the veracity and extent of Plaintiff's Equifax Dispute.

33. Equifax relied on their own judgment and the information provided to them by Credit One rather than grant credence to the information provided by Plaintiff.

34. Equifax published the false information regarding the Account to third parties.

35. The Plaintiff was denied credit and/or refrained from needed credit applications due to the erroneous information associated with the Account.

36. Plaintiff has lost time working to resolve the adverse information associated with the Accounts to prevent harm.

COUNT I – EQUIFAX

FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT VIOLATION – 15 U.S.C. §1681e(b)

37. Plaintiff re-alleges and reaffirms the above paragraphs 1-36 as though fully set forth herein.

38. After receiving the Equifax Dispute, Equifax failed to correct the false information regarding the Account reporting on Plaintiff's Equifax consumer report.

39. Defendants Equifax violated 15 U.S.C. §1681e(b) by failing to establish or to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy in the preparation of the credit reports and credit files Defendants Equifax published and maintained concerning Plaintiff.

40. As a result of this conduct, action and inaction of Defendants Equifax Plaintiff suffered damage, and continues to suffer, actual damages, including economic loss, damage to reputation, emotional distress, and interference with Plaintiff's normal and usual activities for which Plaintiff seeks damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

41. Defendants Equifax's conduct, action, and inaction were willful, rendering Defendant Equifax liable to Plaintiff for punitive damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n.

42. In the alternative, Defendants Equifax were negligent, entitled Plaintiff to recover damages under 15 U.S.C. §1681o.

43. Plaintiff is entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees from Defendants Equifax pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n and/or §1681o.

COUNT II – EQUIFAX

FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT VIOLATION – 15 U.S.C. §1681i

44. Plaintiff re-alleges and reaffirms the above paragraphs 1-36 as though fully set forth herein.

45. After receiving the Dispute, Equifax failed to correct the false information regarding the Account reporting on Plaintiff's Equifax consumer report.

46. After receiving the Transunion Dispute, Transunion failed to correct the false information regarding the Account reporting on Plaintiff's Transunion consumer report.

47. Defendants Equifax violated 15 U.S.C. §1681i by failing to delete inaccurate information in Plaintiff's credit files after receiving actual notice of such inaccuracies, by failing to conduct lawful reinvestigations, and by failing to maintain reasonable procedures with which to filter and verify disputed information in Plaintiff's credit files.

48. As a result of this conduct, action and inaction of Defendants Equifax, Plaintiff suffered damage, and continues to suffer, actual damages, including economic loss, damage to reputation, emotional distress and interference with Plaintiff's normal and usual activities for which Plaintiff seeks damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

49. Defendants Equifax's conduct, action, and inaction were willful, rendering Defendants liable to Plaintiff for punitive damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n.

50. In the alternative, Defendants Equifax were negligent, entitling Plaintiff to recover damages under 15 U.S.C. §1681o.

51. Plaintiff is entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees from Defendants Equifax pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n and/or §1681o.

COUNT III – CREDIT ONE
Fair Credit Reporting Act Violation – 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2(b)

52. Plaintiff re-alleges and reaffirms the above paragraphs 1-36 as though fully set forth herein.

53. After receiving the Disputes, Credit One failed to correct the false information regarding the Credit One Account reporting on Plaintiff's consumer reports.

54. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2(b) by failing to fully and properly investigate Plaintiff's disputes of Defendant Credit One's representations; by failing to review all relevant information regarding Plaintiff's disputes; by failing to accurately respond to credit reporting agencies; by verifying false information; and by failing to permanently and lawfully correct its own internal records to prevent the re-reporting of Defendant Credit One's representations to consumer credit reporting agencies, among other unlawful conduct.

55. As a result of this conduct, action, and inaction of Defendant Credit One, Plaintiff suffered damages, and continues to suffer, actual damages, including economic loss, damage to reputation, emotional distress, and interference with Plaintiff's normal and usual activities for which Plaintiff seeks damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

56. Defendant Credit One's conduct, action, and inaction were willful, rendering Defendant liable to Plaintiff for punitive damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n.

57. In the alternative, Defendant Credit One was negligent, entitling Plaintiff to recover damages under 15 U.S.C. §1681o.

58. Plaintiff is entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees from Defendant Credit One pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n and/or 15 U.S.C. §1681o.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks a reasonable and fair judgment against

Defendants for willful noncompliance of the Fair Credit Reporting Act and seeks statutory remedies as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681 and demands:

- A. Jury trial;
- B. Actual damages to be proven at trial, or statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n(a)(1)(A), of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000 per violation;
- C. Punitive damages, pursuant 15 U.S.C. § 1681n(a)(2), for Defendant's willful violation;
- D. The costs of instituting this action together with reasonable attorney's fees incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n(a)(3); and
- E. Any further legal and equitable relief as the court may deem just and proper in the circumstances.

Dated: April 16, 2025

The Law Office of Maureen B. Godfrey, PLLC

By: /s/ Maureen B. Godfrey

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